

## Abstract

A method of an in vitro screening for a ligand using two assay systems i.e. in a first cellular or tissue assay system, selecting the ligand with transcriptional ER-mediated activity measured by an ER-driven reporter gene, whereby in the first  
5 assay system the ligand activates the potency with an  $EC_{50(ER)}$  (half-maximally effective ligand concentration) lower than to 10 nmol/l, and, in a second enzymatic assay system, selecting the physical-chemical interaction (recruitment) of SRC-1, wherein the ligand activates the ER and induces interaction with the co - present SRC-1 with an  $EC_{50(ER+SRC)}$  higher than to  
10 100 nmol/l.

The ligands found by the inventive screening can be used for the treatment and prevention of neuro - degeneration in the cerebral cortex and are thus useful for treatment and prevention of age-related cognitive disorders, affective disorders, Alzheimer's diseases and cerebral ischemia / stroke.

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